

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 IO-14 TRSY-11 AGR-20 CEA-02

CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 H-03 INR-10 INT-08 L-03

LAB-06 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 AID-20 CIEP-02

SS-20 STR-08 TAR-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-03 FEA-02

OMB-01 SWF-02 DRC-01 /216 W
----- 101021

R 311149Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2901

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 08623

PARIS ALSO FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN

E.O. LL652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR,CA

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SUBJECT: CANADIAN-EC RELATIONS

REF: A. STATE 110846; B. BONN 7377; C. STATE 8296L

1. DURING MAY 30 BRIEFING OF AMBASSADOR CONCERNING EC POLITICAL COMMITTEE MEETING, FOREIGN OFFICE POLITICAL DIRECTOR VANWELL SAID THE NINE WOULD MAKE THEIR FIRST FORMAL REPLY TO THE CANADIAN AIDE MEMOIRE AFTER THE JUNE 10-11 EC MINISTERIAL MEETING IN BONN. THE FORMAL REPLY WILL EXPRESS GRATITUDE FOR OTTAWA'S WISH TO IMPROVE EC-CANADIAN RELATIONS AND WILL CONFIRM THAT THIS IS ALSO THE WISH OF THE NINE. THE REPLY WILL NOTE THAT OPERATIONAL DISCUSSIONS RELATING TO EC-CANADIAN AGREEMENT ARE NOW TAKING PLACE IN THE EC COMMISSION AND AMONG THE EC PERMREPS IN BRUSSELS. THE NINE WILL INDICATE THAT THEY WOULD NOT EXPECT DISCUSSIONS TO PROCEED VERY RAPIDLY, ALTHOUGH THE NINE WILL STUDY THE CANADIAN IDEAS AS WELL AS THE FRENCH DRAFT.

2. IN FOLLOW-UP CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF, FOREIGN OFFICE DIRECTOR FOR EC POLITICAL INTEGRATION WENT BEYOND ABOVE POLITESSE TO EXPRESS DEEP EC SKEPTICISM OF THE NINE CONCERNING BOTH TRADE AGREEMENT AND DECLARATION WITH CANADA. OUR SOURCE CITED EC COMMISSION DIRECTOR GENERAL WELLENSTEIN AS HAVING TOLD THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE BLUNTLY THIS WEEK THAT "THERE IS NO POINT AT ALL TO AN EC TRADE AGREEMENT WITH CANADA." WELLENSTEIN HAD APPARENTLY QUESTIONED, AS DID DEPARTMENT REFTEL PARA 3, WHAT THE SUBSTANCE OF A TRADE AGREEMENT WOULD BE WHICH WOULD MERELY COMPLEMENT AND LEAVE INTACT EXISTING CANADIAN-EC MEMBERSTATE BILATERALS. HE THOUGHT THERE WOULD BE NO SUBSTANCE TO IT AND THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS SEEMED TO AGREE.

3. OUR SOURCE SAID THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE EXPRESSED UNDERSTANDING FOR THE CANADIAN WISH TO SCORE SOME DOMESTIC POLITICAL POINTS AND TO PROMOTE "DIVERSIFICATION OF CANADIAN FOREIGN RELATIONS." HOWEVER, WHILE THE NINE WILL STUDY THE CANADIAN IDEAS, THEY EXPECT TO MOVE FORWARD WITH ALL DELIBERATE RPT DELIBERATE SPEED.

HILLENBRAND
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